

## BAKER POND (Orleans)

## General Information:

This 26 acre, natural kettlehole pond has a maximum depth of 60 feet and an average depth of 18 feet. Transparency is good, extending to 11 feet or more, but aquatic vegetation is scarce. The shoreline is lightly developed with a few dwellings, but for the most part is forested in scrub pine and oak. The pH (2/24/92) is 7.07.

Baker pond is located in the eastern portion of Orleans just west of Route 6. To get to the pond from the Sagamore Bridge, take Route 6 east to Exit 12 (Route 6A). Take a left on to Route 6A (back under Route 6) and then take your first left onto Baker Pond Road. Access to the pond is provided by a small beach area on the left side of the road with parking for approximately eight vehicles. There is no launching ramp, but canoes and car-top boats can be launched over the beach area. **There is a 10 horsepower limit** enforced by the town of Orleans.

This pond was reclaimed in 1954, and has been treated with lime periodically to counteract high acidity. Smallmouth bass brood stock were stocked here in 1980 and 1981. Trout are stocked here every spring and fall.

## Fish Populations:

This pond was last surveyed in 1988, at which time nine species were recorded present: pumpkinseed, smallmouth bass, brown bullhead, banded killifish, golden shiner, yellow perch, American eel, brown trout and rainbow trout.

## Fishing:

Baker Pond is managed primarily as a trout pond and is annually stocked with brook, brown and rainbow trout. Due to its good summer trout habitat, the pond offers the potential for some nice holdover trout fishing. Summer anglers seeking trout should look for the fish at depths of 20 to 35 feet. All the standard trout baits and lures are effective, but if all else fails, try drift-jigging a small streamer or grass shrimp about two feet behind a split shot within the depth range mentioned above.

Don't overlook the smallmouth bass here. Although not as plentiful as stocked trout, there are enough to offer fair bass fishing action, and some of them are quite large. Try bucktails and eel imitations along the bottom. Some anglers find they do best with live bait in the form of grass shrimp.

To reduce competition with the stocked trout, anglers are encouraged to remove any perch, pumpkinseeds or other warmwater species of fish that they catch.

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